

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 2696

EXDIS

FOR NIMETZ FROM LEDSKY

BUDAPEST FOR HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, AU
SUBJECT: CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA: MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR

1. I MET FOR ONE HOUR AT NOON, APRIL 5, WITH AMBASSADOR PEREZ DE CUELLAR, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS, NOW THAT DR. WALDHEIM HAS LEFT VIENNA. GEORGE SHERRY FROM THE UN'S NEW YORK STAFF WAS ALSO PRESENT.

2. DE CUELLAR HAD JUST COME FROM THE MORNING CYPRUS SESSION, WHICH HAD BEEN DEVOTED TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE. HE DESCRIBED THE MEETING AS USEFUL, WITH THE ATMOSPHERE MUCH EASIER AND FRIENDLIER THAN AT THE MEETINGS LAST WEEK. DE CUELLAR SAID ONAN HAD ELABORATED ON HIS CONSTITUTIONAL
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PROPOSAL, AND PAPADOPOULOS HAD CONTINUED A PENETRATING ATTACK ON THE DOCUMENT.

3. DE CUELLAR THOUGHT THE TALKS WOULD NOW CONTINUE WITHOUT INTERRUPTION WITH MORNING AND AFTERNOON SESSIONS THROUGH THURSDAY, APRIL 7. MAINTAINING A DIALOGUE ON THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE MIGHT BE DIFFICULT UNLESS THE TURKS WERE MORE SPECIFIC

IN INDICATING THE ACTUAL LAND THEY WANTED TO RETAIN, AND IN THIS RESPECT, DE CUELLAR SAID HE COULD NOT BUT SYMPATHIZE WITH THE DILEMMA PAPADOPOULOS AND THE GREEK CYPRIOTS FACED.

4. AS FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION, DISCUSSION OF THAT SUBJECT COULD GO ON FOR MANY DAYS WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. IT WAS DE CUELLAR'S IMPRESSION THAT PAPADOPOULOS, HAVING COMPLETED HIS DISSECTION OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT DRAFT, WAS PREPARED TOMORROW TO INTRODUCE A COUNTER-PROPOSAL OF HIS OWN. DE CUELLAR SEEMED TO FEEL THAT THIS WOULD BE A USEFUL DEVELOPMENT, AND THAT THE TALKS COULD END ON THURSDAY WITH THE DIFFERING CONSTITUTIONAL POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES CLEARLY ON RECORD.

5. WHEN I EXPRESSED SOME DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THIS WAS THE DIRECTION IN WHICH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE MOVING, AND THAT HAVING TWO DIFFERING CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS ON THE TABLE WOULD NOT NECESSARILY ASSIST THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS, DE CUELLAR ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THIS US ATTITUDE FROM AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD IN NICOSIA, BUT FROM THE UN'S STANDPOINT, THE TURKISH CYPRIOT CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS HAD BEEN CONTRARY TO THE FOUR PRINCIPLES AGREED UPON BETWEEN DENKTASH AND MAKARIOS IN FEBRUARY. THOSE PRINCIPLES CALLED FOR A "FEDERATION" ON CYPRUS, AND THE MOST CHARITABLE THING THAT COULD BE SAID FOR THE TURKISH PROPOSALS WAS THAT THEY EMBODIED A "CONFEDERATION" LEADING AT SOME UNSPECIFIED FUTURE DATE TO A "FEDERATION." UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, DE CUELLAR THOUGHT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS HAD EVERY RIGHT TO PUT THEIR OWN DOCUMENT ON THE TABLE.

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6. DE CUELLAR SAID HIS MAIN CONCERN AT THIS POINT WAS ENSURING THAT THE TALKS RESUME IN NICOSIA SOMETIME SOON, AND THAT THIS FACT BE REFLECTED IN THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER THE LAST NEGOTIATING SESSION IN VIENNA THIS WEEK. DE CUELLAR SPECULATED THAT MAKARIOS' ILLNESS MIGHT PROVE AN OBSTACLE TO FIXING A FURTHER NEGOTIATING DATE. WITHOUT HIS APPROVAL, IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT PAPADOPOULOS COULD SET A DATE AND HAVE IT PLACED IN THE COMMUNIQUE. INDEED, MAKARIOS' ILLNESS COULD JEOPARDIZE THE WHOLE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

7. WITH REGARD TO THE COMMUNIQUE, DE CUELLAR THOUGHT THAT WITH THE LACK OF AUTHORITY OF THE TWO NEGOTIATORS, IT WOULD BE BEST TO HAVE A DRAFT PUT ON THE TABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, SINCE APPROVAL FOR THE TEXT WOULD HAVE TO BE SOUGHT IN CYPRUS. THE UN WOULD PREPARE AN INITIAL DRAFT WHICH DE CUELLAR UNDERTOOK TO SHOW ME THIS EVENING, BEFORE IT WAS HANDED TO ONAN AND PAPADOPOULOS. DE CUELLAR'S IDEAS FOR THE COMMUNIQUE CLOSELY MATCHED THE DEPARTMENT'S IDEAS AS CONTAINED IN STATE 75253.MEEHAN

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